

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES**  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project



Eric Langhorst  
8th Grade American History  
South Valley Jr. High  
Liberty, Missouri

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project



This presentation is available online as a PDF

[www.speakingofhistory.blogspot.com](http://www.speakingofhistory.blogspot.com)  
October 15, 2007 post on blog

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project

Blog:

- (a combination of "web" + "log")
- is a website where entries are written in chronological order and commonly displayed in reverse chronological order

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)


**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project



Will Richardson created a blog in 2002 when his students read The Secret Life of Bees

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project



Guerrilla Season  
by Pat Hughes

Story of two teenage boys growing up in Missouri at the start of the Civil War

Historical accurate, engaging and well written

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project

In 2005 a class set of 30 – no blog just use in class

Through a Sprint grant we were able to purchase 350 copies of the book in 2006

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)


**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project

The blog allows us to create a virtual place to meet and discuss the book which is always open



[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project




The teacher is the moderator of the blog – controls the content and comments

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project

Each week post the number of pages to be read and some discussion questions



[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project



The teacher should use the posts to "guide" the participants

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project


Our book blog took place over four weeks and we used "Blogger" as our blogging software



[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project

Each week added 3 or 4 discussion questions pertaining to the reading for that week



[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Sample Question from the blog:

The style of warfare used in Missouri to fight much of the Civil War is described as "Guerrilla Warfare" - a method of combat by which a smaller group of combatants attempts to use its mobility to defeat a larger, and consequently less mobile, army.

If you have been following the war in Iraq this term is often used to describe the warfare which currently takes place on the streets of that country every day.

**What similarities do you see with the guerrilla warfare tactics used in Missouri in 1863 and Iraq in 2006?**

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Requirements for students were to post at least one comment and turn in a final project about the book

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Student Rules for Posting:

- No first and last names
- Create a pen name
- Check for grammar
- Extend the conversation

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Many of the students will ask similar questions

As I moderated I did not post each question if it kept repeating the same one

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)


**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

We found it helpful if students created a "pen name"

Identities were kept safe but could carry a conversation

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**



If set up correctly the teacher can moderate all comments **BEFORE** they are posted to the Internet

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)



**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** *To Do!*  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Participants included:

- SVJH students
- Pat Hughes (author)
- Parents, grandparents
- School board members
- California students

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** *To Do!*  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Included "Pat Asks" and "You Ask Pat" posts each week



[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** *To Do!*  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Also included short audio interviews with Pat on various topics



[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** *To Do!*  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

The last week the blog becomes a showcase for the final student projects



[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** *To Do!*  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Final Project Options:

1. Design a new book cover
2. Alternate ending to novel
3. Create a movie poster

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** *To Do!*  
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Final Project Options:

4. Interview a character
5. A scene as a comic book
6. Write a poem about novel

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:   
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

USA TODAY Home News Travel Sports Life Tech US  
 Life | [Book Life](#)

**Bloggng now begins young**  
 Posted 11/14/2007 10:15 PM ET

By **Antony Blomax, USA TODAY**

About 300 eighth-graders at South Me. are blogging their fall about Civil a 15-year-old living in Civil War-era

The book's author, Pig-Hughes, is discussion from her home in Phil

"I love being able to communicate makes me feel like I can just send 'text' books you read you have to named the characters, why they or what inspired them."

Eric Langhorst, who teaches eight South Valley, started the blog expe class as an extra credit assignme with students and parents that the entire eighth grade. Water Creek in Calif., has joined in.

Langhorst says the blog has been students more involved in the clas

*The Dixie Clicks*  
 By Eric Langhorst

How a boy above the Civil War

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:   
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

The project's only cost is the purchase of the books

Good choice for a grant




[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:   
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**



If all final projects are e-mailed to the teacher it is also a paperless project

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:   
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Could also use a wiki instead of a blog to discuss the book

Book club blogs on books that each student has read

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:   
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Join us for our next Guerrilla Season book blog project

**FEB 2008**

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

**HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES** To Do:   
**The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project**

Eric Langhorst  
 Contact Information:  
 speakingofhistory@gmail.com

8<sup>th</sup> Grade American History  
 South Valley Jr. High  
 Liberty, Missouri

[www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com](http://www.guerrillaseason.blogspot.com)

# HARDTACK TO HARD DRIVES

## The Guerrilla Season Book Blog Project



How a blog about the Civil War turned into a runaway hit

Eric Langhorst  
8th Grade American History  
South Valley Jr. High  
Liberty, Missouri